

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO†

EXCERPTS FROM OUR STATE MEDICAL JOURNAL

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From Some Editorial Notes:

Suggestions to Authors.—A pamphlet with this title is issued by the American Medical Association and will be sent to anyone for the small sum of twenty-five cents. Every going-to-be author should provide himself with this pamphlet and read it carefully before writing his article. Many authors seem to resent the rejection of their manuscript when they really ought to apologize to the editor for sending him such slovenly or, possibly, illiterate work. If the following rules and suggestions were followed, fewer manuscripts would be rejected, a good article will be greatly increased in value, time will be saved, the editor will be able to keep his temper, and the compositor may be saved from a drunkard's grave:

Manuscripts *must* be typewritten to receive any consideration; they *should* be well spaced between the lines and with ample margins.

A carbon copy should not be submitted; the original is none too good, as a rule, and the carbon copy shows at once that another and better copy exists. If the author desires to keep a copy, he should keep the carbon copy.

Ingenuity is praiseworthy in almost anything except spelling. Dictionaries are cheap; the author should carefully correct his manuscript before sending it in. An aimless ingenuity in variegated spelling is calculated to drive nearly any "copy reader" crazy.

Exclusive publication is the rule of nearly every journal so far as known. To send the same article to two or more journals is cheating.

Do not write at all unless you have something to say and then say it as briefly as possible and stop.

Number the pages of your manuscript consecutively from first to last, and do not put slips of odd sizes in between sheets so that they can fall out, get misplaced, or in some other way give you a chance to kick at the printer for your own carelessness.

Case reports are, as a rule, maddening. They may possibly be intelligible to the author, but from the way he generally writes them up, even this is to be doubted. A case report should be as carefully written as any other portion of the article; and it should contain no unnecessary matter. Do not include negative findings; what is not stated to be abnormal is assumed to be normal.

Quotations are another source of anguish. A majority of authors will put quotation marks at the beginning of the quoted matter—and then carefully forget to put them at the end!

A "case" is a condition or instance of disease; a patient is a human being. One may operate upon a patient, but not upon a case; the patient dies or recovers; not the case.

Many illustrations are seldom necessary to elucidate the text of a properly written article. When they are necessary, they should be in the form of black and white drawings on a stiff paper, or clear, clean photographs on a glazed paper. Each should be numbered and have the name of the author on the back.

Never roll a manuscript; send it flat or folded.

Never roll or fold photographs; send them flat.

The Barany Symptom Complex.—Three years ago the name of Barany was known only to a few otologists, who were familiar with the work being done in the Politzer ear clinic. Today every neurologist and "internist" is making himself familiar with the work of this remarkable investigator. Starting with a study of the nystagmus produced by an irritation of the vestibular apparatus of the ear, brought about by the injection of cold water into the external canal, various functions of the cerebellum have been studied, until now more is known about the kinesthetic

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†This column strives to mirror the work and aims of colleagues who bore the brunt of Association work some twenty-five years ago. It is hoped that such presentation will be of interest to both old and new members.

BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA†

By CHARLES B. PINKHAM, M.D.
Secretary-Treasurer

News

"Action on the Attorney-General's petition for hearing on appeal from the recent Appellate Court decision, granting three members of the asserted Coast-wide illegal operations ring new trials, is expected from the State Supreme Court within a few days. James Beggs, Valentine St. John, and Jesse Ross, convicted in 1936 on counts of conspiracy and performing illegal operations, were given new trials when the Court held there was no corroborative evidence to sustain their conviction. Deputy Attorney-General Rhone also asked for an appeal on the dismissal of one count against William A. Byrne, former special agent for the State Board of Medical Examiners. His conviction on four other counts had been sustained by the Appellate Court." (Los Angeles Times, May 16, 1937.) (Previous entries, July, October, December, 1936.)

"A physician listed on the records of the Metropolitan Water District as Dr. Ralph Arthur Behrend, formerly of Manchester, Connecticut, was held in custody at the Riverside County Hospital today, after being arrested on the suspicion of theft of narcotics from the Parker Dam Emergency Field Hospital. The arrested man is not to be confused with Dr. R. Allen Behrendt of Los Angeles, who was formerly in charge of the Banning Field Hospital of the Water District, but who is now in private practice in Los Angeles, with offices at 2007 Wilshire Boulevard. First reports of the arrest recently identified the accused man as the Los Angeles physician, but this mistake was made because of the similarity in names and the further fact that the Los Angeles doctor had previously been in charge of the Banning Field Hospital, which the accused man was supervising at the time of his arrest. The Connecticut doctor had succeeded the Los Angeles doctor on the Banning Hospital job. The Parker Dam Field Hospital and the Banning Hospital are separate institutions, both operated by the Metropolitan Water District. . . . The arrested man . . . was graduated from Yale and is a native of Connecticut. . . . During the latter part of last week, according to authorities, the Connecticut doctor, allegedly suffering from the effects of narcotic addiction, went to the Parker Dam Hospital, obtained supplies of narcotics stored there and returned to Banning, where he was arrested. He was taken to the Riverside County Hospital, reportedly in a serious condition, while arraignment on the theft charge was held in abeyance. . . ." (Los Angeles Herald and Express, May 24, 1937.)

"Dr. Charles O. Long, Phoenix, Arizona, physician, today lost an appeal to the United States Circuit Court of Appeals on a conviction for violation of the Harrison Narcotics Act. Doctor Long was sentenced to eighteen months in a federal penitentiary for violation of the Act, which exacts a jail sentence for sale of narcotics." (United Press dispatch, dated San Francisco, June 7, and printed in the Los Angeles Daily News, June 8, 1937.)

"Dr. Claude C. Long and his wife, Isabel, today pleaded 'not guilty' to murder charges in Superior Judge Frank T. Deasy's court. Trial was set for July 9. The couple were held responsible for the death of Mrs. Genevieve Arganbright, wife of Perry Arganbright of 4621 Lincoln Way, following an alleged illegal operation. The operation was reported performed in Doctor Long's flat at 1679 Haight Street, where Mrs. Arganbright's body was found May 19 by an undertaker's assistant. A coroner's inquest revealed death resulted from an illegal operation. Assistant Dis-

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†The office addresses of the California State Board of Medical Examiners are printed in the roster on advertising page 6.